

EASTER at the WHITE HOUSE

EASTER week is one of the busiest seasons of the entire year at the White House in Washington. It is so much that Easter Sunday is for the president and his family a more crowded interval than the first days of other weeks, although it is sufficiently crowded with duties, as, indeed, is every day on the calendar of the presidential household. However, it is the remainder of Easter week rather than the significant holiday that inaugurates it that is a time of activity at the first residence in the land.



THE PRESIDENT'S EASTER CALLERS

The merry whirl starts off with Easter Monday, but that is no new thing for Easter Monday has been from time out of mind the occasion of the great annual egg rolling in the president's back yard. The juvenile frolic with youthful shouts and laughter filling the air has always been calculated to somewhat upset things around the executive mansion. And certainly it does turn things topsy-turvy from the standpoint of the gardeners and the men who care for the lawn, for, as may be imagined, no expanse of greensward could be expected to emerge looking spick and span from the romp of 10,000 children armed with, say, 50,000, more or less, fragile eggs.

But nowadays the air of festivity does not depart with the setting sun, but continues for five or six days longer. The secret of it all is that Easter week has become, seemingly by common consent, a most popular time for visiting the national capital. That is, it is the time chosen by a numerically important section of the community—namely, the teachers of our public schools and their pupils. The practice has been growing apace during the past decade until now the school classes invade the seat of government by the thousands each Easter. It started with the teachers who began coming as individuals at this time of year because the spring vacation gave them a few days' leisure at an opportune time for seeing the capital under the most advantageous conditions and the idea spread until now we find whole delegations of school marms coming by special train each Easter, and, oddly enough, many of the teachers come back year after year at this time—perhaps to study political economy or history in the making.

Latterly the pupils of public grammar schools and high schools and of private schools for both girls and boys have been following the example of the teachers and have been recruiting Easter excursion parties to Washington "personally conducted" by teachers and chaperones. In a number of states this tendency has been encouraged by the educational authorities, who believe that object lessons at government making in Washington can profitably go hand in hand with book learning. The result has been that a number of the invading parties that have descended upon the City of Magnificent Distances these past few years have embraced practically the entire membership of their respective schools.

But how, perhaps you are asking, does this make work for the president? Very simple—each and every one of these Easter visitors wants to not only see the president, but actually shake hands with him and say "Howdy." Of the thousands upon thousands of sightseers that make the capital their mecca at other seasons of the year, the great majority are entirely satisfied if they catch a glimpse of the president at the theater, at church, or walking on the street. Not so, the Easter pilgrims. They want an audience at court, and what is more to the point, they usually so agitate the matter with their respective congressmen and senators—laying stress upon the educational status of the visit—that the lawmakers bestir themselves to secure dates at the White House.

If congress is in session at Easter tide there is sure to be an especially heavy influx from the school rooms all over the land, and if the president has a reputation for good nature, as has the present occupant of the White House, it seems as though the fact spurs the pedagogues to fresh endeavors to secure the boon of a reception at the White House for themselves and their charges. And as for the private schools—particularly the "finishing schools" for young ladies—that send their pupils to Washington at the end of Lent, why any faculty might almost as well resign as arrange a trip to Washington without reason as to the White House, the equal in privileges and prestige of that vouchsafed to the visitors from any rival institution.

But as has been said, this influx of admiring hosts makes a very busy week for the president. And it brings furore to the foreheads of the secretaries who make out the schedule of engagements for the president. The Easter visitors are not received by the president in the White House proper, as are the callers on New Year's day or at the big card receptions during the winter season. On the contrary, the chief magistrate greets the Easter delegations in his private office at the



EASTER WEEK AT THE WHITE HOUSE

is always something of a festival season. Mr. Robert Taft and Charles Taft, second, the sons of the president, are at home from college and preparatory school for the occasion and usually they bring with them friends who make up a jolly house party and for whose especial benefit there are arranged some entertainments of a character to delight young people, notably the Easter week dancing party. Often relatives of the president or his wife also choose Easter to spend a short time at the White House, and as a rule, all the guest rooms in the mansion are occupied throughout Easter week. The mansion, always lavishly bedecked with flowers, is given an extra decorative touch by means of Easter lilies and the house-keeper in her daily rounds of the markets—the trip being made in a coupe which has supplanted the market wagon used by the Roosevelt steward—lays in an extra supply of the green vegetables, which are displayed at this season of the year, have made the Washington markets well high world-famous.

In their observance of Easter Sunday the Tafts have not departed to any great extent from the traditions of the White House occupants of the past. Ordinarily the president and Mrs. Taft, alike to their predecessors, the Roosevelts, attend churches of different denominations, but on Easter or other significant occasions they often go together to church, usually accompanied by the children. The president is conveyed to church by motor car instead of walking as Roosevelt was wont to do, but Taft has taken to making up for it latterly by a long walk in the afternoon.

This daily walk, which is especially prolonged on Sunday if the day be pleasant, is somewhat of a new wrinkle for the chief magistrate. Formerly he relied upon long horseback rides and several hours of golf on every week day to give him the outdoor exercise that his physician declares that he must have with regularity. Latterly, however, his enthusiasm for both these pursuits seems to have waned and he is endeavoring to keep physically fit by a regime of exercise in the White House gymnasium supplemented by the daily walk. Sometimes the president sets out for this afternoon stroll accompanied only by his military and Capt. Butt, but more often he has one or more friends with him or they join him en route. These pedestrians, followed by the two secret service men who are ever the president's shadow when he appears in public, form quite a little procession, and yet it is astonishing how many persons pass the president without recognizing him—perhaps because they do not expect to see him engaged in so thoroughly demotic a pursuit. However, there is one class of passerby who never fail to spot the distinguished promenade. These are the lecturers on the big sight-seeing automobiles that are seen in such numbers on the streets of Washington. They are likely to discover the approaching president when he is block away and their audiences are put on the alert.

A HOLIDAY OF JOY
I have never cared for the much-coveted Easter bonnet, and have never made sacrifices to that end, but I do associate Eastertide with a day by the sea. To me the festival of Easter has always been the holiday of joy of all others in the year. It does not mean work nor religious service, but it does mean unadulterated joy, and is always spent at Dieppe, France, because I know that at this season of the year Dieppe is deserted, and that I shall be alone for the holiday of my abandonment on the sands.
I have a religious feeling, it is true, but I never discuss religion with anyone. I have always felt that religion is an individual affair, and that one's views should never be forced upon another. Mine is simple and satisfies me fully; but it might not satisfy others nor fit the conditions that surround other lives. Therefore from a religious viewpoint I never try to interfere with the standards of others, which are God-given and as much of a right or as near right as my own.
But the season of Easter above all others appeals to me for very joy of living. I spend the day on the sands eating shrimps and walking, and on no other day of the year am I so free—Mary Garden.

If a senator or a cabinet member proves to be a "stayer" under such circumstances the White House lawn and all around the office building is likely to be occupied by delegations whose progress has been held up, regardless of prearranged schedules.
The White House office building is not particularly well adapted to the reception of such throngs of Easter visitors as have made of it a magnet among the past few years. However, the executive staff has evolved a system of handling the crowds that works fairly well and if the line which is admitted single file is kept moving the callers are ushered out of the side door nearest the front door. The president usually takes his stand to receive his callers, before the handsome open fireplace in his private office, this being conveniently located on the direct line between the two doors, which afford ingress and egress to this circular apartment.
As for the egg rolling on Easter Monday, which helps to enliven the Easter season at the White House, the present chief magistrate, for all his well known fondness for children, has not made it a rule as did some of his predecessors to appear during the afternoon on the south portico of the mansion and make a short address to the young folks assembled on the 50-acre playground. However, he did show his sympathy with the cause by putting his foot down on the suggestion that maybe the time had come to do away with this time honored festival. Indeed, under the present administration the Easter event has been reserved more strictly than ever for juveniles. In years gone by the grown-ups who came to look at the children and to hear the band came near monopolizing things sometimes, but now no adults are admitted unless accompanied by children—a rule that has resulted in financial profit to certain crafty youngsters who make a practice of hiring themselves out to childish sightseers.
In the domestic life in the White House Easter

The Risen King
BY JOHN BAKEWELL.
Hail, thou once despised Jesus!
Hail, thou Galilean king!
Thou didst suffer to release us,
Thou didst free salvation bring;
Hail, though agonizing Savior,
Bearer of our sin and shame;
By thy merits we find favor;
Life is given through thy name.
Paschal Lamb, by God appointed,
All our sins on thee were laid;
By almighty love anointed,
Thou hast full atonement made;
All thy people are forgiven
Through the virtue of thy blood;
Opened is the gate of heaven;
Peace is made 'twixt man and God.
Jesus, hail, enthroned in glory,
There forever to abide;
All the heavenly hosts adore thee,
Seated at thy Father's side.
There for sinners thou art pleading;
There thou dost our place prepare;
Ever for us interceding
Till in glory we appear.
Worship, honor, power, and blessing,
Thou art worthy to receive;
Loudest praises, without ceasing,
Meet it is for us to give.
Help, ye bright angelic spirits,
Bring your sweetest, noblest lays;
Help to sing our Savior's merits,
Help to chant Immanuel's praise.
Soon we shall, with those in glory,
His transcendent grace relate;
Gladly sing the amazing story
Of his dying love so great;
In that blessed contemplation
We for evermore shall dwell,
Crowned with bliss and consolation,
Such as none below can tell.

Spring Debility

Felt by so many upon the return of warm weather is due to the impure, impoverished, devitalized condition of the blood which causes that tired feeling and loss of appetite as well as the pimples, boils and other eruptions so common at this season. It is cured by the great constitutional remedy

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which effects its wonderful cures, not simply because it contains sarsaparilla, but because it combines the utmost remedial values of more than twenty different ingredients. There is no real substitute for Hood's Sarsaparilla. If urged to buy any preparation said to be "just as good," you may be sure it is inferior, costs less to make, and yields the dealer a larger profit.

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Garfield Tea assists overworked digestive organs, corrects constipation, cleanses the system and aids the blood of impurities.

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Will Be World Representation.
When the International Congress on Tuberculosis meets at Rome next September, representatives of over thirty national and provincial associations organized to fight tuberculosis will be present. Among the associations which will be represented are the United States, Canada, Cuba, Trinidad, England, Wales, Ireland, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Russia, Germany, Belgium, Holland, France, Switzerland, Portugal, Italy, Greece, Bulgaria, Hungary, Austria, New Zealand, Japan, Cape Colony, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Newfoundland, Roumania, Uruguay and Venezuela.

How Sea Birds Drink.
Under the headline, Where Do They Get Water? a writer in the Young Folks' Catholic Weekly says: "When I was a cabin boy I often used to wonder, seeing birds thousands of miles out to sea, what they did for fresh water when they were thirsty. One day a squall answered that question for me. It was a hot and glittering day in the tropics, and in the clear sky overhead a black rain cloud appeared all of a sudden. Then out of empty space over a hundred sea birds came darting from every direction. They got under the rain cloud, and waited there for about ten minutes, circling round and round, and when the rain began to fall they drank their fill. In the tropics, where the great sea birds sail thousands of miles away from shore, they get their drinking water in that way. They smell out a storm a long way off, they travel a hundred miles maybe to get under it, and they swallow enough raindrops to keep them going."—New York Tribune.

REASONED IT OUT
And Found a Change in Food Put Him Right.

A man does not count as wasted the time he spends in thinking over his business, but he seems loth to give the same sort of careful attention to himself and to his health. And yet his business would be worth little without good health to care for it. A business man tells how he did himself good by carefully thinking over his physical condition, investigating to find out what was needed, and then changing to the right food.
"For some years I had been bothered a great deal after meals. My food seemed to lay like lead in my stomach, producing heaviness and dullness and sometimes positive pain. Of course this rendered me more or less unfit for business, and I made up my mind that something would have to be done.
"Reflection led me to the conclusion that over-eating, filling the stomach with indigestible food, was responsible for many of the ills that human flesh endures, and that I was punishing myself in that way—that was what was making me so dull, heavy and uncomfortable, and unfit for business after meals. I concluded to try Grape-Nuts food to see what it could do for me.
"I have been using it for some months now, and am glad to say that I do not suffer any longer after meals; my food seems to assimilate easily and perfectly, and to do the work for which it was intended.
"I have regained my normal weight, and find that business is a pleasure once more—can take more interest in it, and my mind is clearer and more alert."
Name given by Postum Co., Battle Creek, Mich.
Read "The Road to Wellville," in pks. "There's a Reason."
Ever read the above letter? A new one appears from time to time. They are genuine, true, and full of human interest.

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